

## Commitment And Maturity

"Dirty Words", Part 9 of 10  
Pastor Vince DiPaola

*"Therefore leaving the elementary teaching about the Christ, let us press on to maturity..."*  
(Hebrews 6:1a, NASB)

*"We must try to become mature and start thinking about more than just the basic things we were taught about Christ."*

(Hebrews 6:1a, CEV)

### ***Understanding How The Only Path To Spiritual Maturity Is Personal Commitment***

#### **I) COMMITMENT: DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES? *The Various Levels Of Commitment***

##### **1) A \_\_\_ COLD \_\_\_ commitment: There really isn't any.**

*"Yet there are some of you who do not believe.' For Jesus had known from the beginning which of them did not believe and who would betray him."*  
(John 6:64, NIV)

##### **2) A \_\_\_ CONSUMER \_\_\_ commitment: Only when you get back.**

*"After the people saw the miraculous sign that Jesus did, they began to say, 'Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world.' Jesus, knowing that they intended to come and make him king by force, withdrew again to a mountain by himself."*  
(John 6:14-15, NIV)

##### **3) A \_\_\_ CONVENIENCE \_\_\_ commitment: Only when it costs little.**

*"On hearing it, many of his disciples said, 'This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?' Aware that his disciples were grumbling about this, Jesus said to them, 'Does this offend you?....' From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him."*  
(John 6:60-61, 66, NIV)

##### **4) A \_\_\_ CHRIST-LIKE \_\_\_ commitment: Just like Jesus would want.**

*"'You do not want to leave me too, do you?' Jesus asked the Twelve. Simon Peter answered him, 'Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.'"*  
(John 6:67-68, NIV)

## II) MATURITY: HOW COMMITMENT CAN FEED IT

### ***What Commitments To Make (And Not Make) To Mature***

##### **1) Maturity is exclusively the \_\_\_ WORK OF GOD \_\_\_ and no one else.**

*"I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God made it grow."* (1 Corinthians 3:6, NIV)

##### **2) Maturity is a semi-mysterious \_\_\_ DIVINE-HUMAN \_\_\_ partnership.**

*"Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed— not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence— [you] continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good pleasure."*  
(Philippians 2:12-13, NIV)

##### **3) Maturity correlates to both \_\_\_ READING & FOLLOWING \_\_\_ the Bible.**

*"Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it— he will be blessed in what he does."*  
(James 1:22-25, NIV)

##### **4) Maturity is accelerated in community with \_\_\_ LIKE-MINDED PPL \_\_\_.**

*"Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread together in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people."*  
(Acts 2:46-47a, NIV)

*"As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another."* (Proverbs 27:17, NIV)

## III) INCREASING YOUR COMMITMENT TO MATURITY

##### **1) Get off \_\_\_ THE FENCE \_\_\_ about Jesus Christ.**

##### **2) Get in \_\_\_ THE BIBLE \_\_\_ on a regular basis.**

##### **3) Get with \_\_\_ OTHER PEOPLE \_\_\_ who will help you mature.**

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